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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts to publication wish to have rejected articles returned, the must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

#### The Man and the Chair.

It seems to be hard work to find the right man for chairman of the next Republican national committee. The persons whom Mr. ROOSEVELT considers fittest for the job and most pleasing to himself are too busy, too modest or not physically robust enough. The persons willing to take it are not the most suit- any engineering problem so difficult as able. According to our despatches from Washington, the President's "advisers recommend the selection of "some good but inconspicuous Republican," a figurehead and titular chairman, "with an executive and advisory committee made up of some of the ablest and most prominent Republicans to be found in or out of Congress.

There is some confusion of thought or language, or some imperfect apprehension of the facts in this recommendation. There are many good Republicans. There is but one conspicuous Republican. There are many able Republicans. There is just one prominent Republican.

To propose an advisory and executive committee for him is either ridiculous or insulting. He needs no advice. He has it to give. He is capable of attending to whatever duties of the executive, the executant and the executioner may come in his way.

Why, then, try to surround this simple, straightforward and strenuous personage with the cheap conventionality or hypocrisy of an executive and advisory committee, or put a barren sceptre in the gripe of some good but inconspicuous Republican? If Governor ODELL is his own chairman, certainly Mr. ROOSEVELT can afford to be. Precedents don't count. He loves to smash precedents and to break records. Everybody knows that the chairman of a national committee is the candidate's personal choice. What is the difference, in principle, between appointing somebody else and appointing yourself?

The President's chief duty is to get himself nominated and then to get himself elected. All other considerations are trivial and on the side. By becoming chairman in name, as he will be in fact, Mr. ROOSEVELT will take no new responsibility or labor. Till the rejects the divinity of Christ. close of the polls on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November he will but continue the sublime task to which he has been devoting himself for so many months. Does not the good of the country require him to chair, advise and execute, himself?

#### The Attempts to Block the Transfer of the Panama Canal.

Many and ingenious are the methods of obstruction to which certain persons are resorting for the purpose of preventing or delaying the transfer of title from the French canal company to the United States. Apparently, there are people in Paris who assume that our Federal Government can be bled as easily as could the unfortunate M. DE LESSEPS. The assumption will prove unfounded. Not a dollar will slip from our Federal Treasury into the pockets of blackmailers. We shall go right ahead and build a canal across the Panama Isthmus, even if we are compelled to leave the French company's assets or its hands. In that event the value of those assets, outside of its interests in the Panama Railroad, would be nil.

That the impediments to a transfer of

title are now known to be more numerous and serious than they were at first supposed to be is evident from our Government's determination to send forthwith to Paris not only Special Assistant Attorney-General CHARLES W. RUSSELL, but also Assistant Attorney-General W. A. DAY to investigate the ability of the present French company to dispose of the canal property. The difficulties in the way of completing the transaction are said to be threefold. In the first place, the Colombian Government has brought a suit to enjoin the present French company from conveying the canal property, on the ground that it, the Colombian Government, is a party in interest. We have never doubted that the French courts would ultimately, if not in the first instance, reject the request for an injunction, holding that whatever rights and interests the United States of Colombia may have possessed have devolved upon the Republic of Panama, whose independence has been acknowledged by France and many other European Powers, as well as by the United States.

Neither have we supposed that anything except delay could be secured by the appeal to the French Government on the part of bondholders and stockholders in the old Panama company, who claim that it is the Government's duty and satisfactory response: even if it to protect their interests. The investigation conducted in Paris by Attorney-General KNOX resulted in the conclusion that the bondholders and stockholders in the old company have no surviving interests, but that a perfect title to the canal property has, by process of law, been vested in the new company. Of late, however, a third and new obstacle has been suggested, to wit, the alleged necessity of obtaining individual assents from all stockholders in the new Panama company to the proposed conveyance of title to the United States. If any such necessity exists it obviously opens endless opportunities, or supposed opportunities, for levying blackmail.

It may as well be understood, first as last, that Congress will not authorize the payment of a centime to blackmailers. Moreover, it behooves all intending

despoilers of our Federal Treasury to awaken quickly to that fact. We have no intention of holding open for an indefinite period our acceptance of the French company's proposal to sell its canal property for forty million dollars. We have already secured by treaty a ten-mile zone, through which the partially constructed canal now owned by the new French company is to run. The option will become operative when we have paid the covenanted price, ten million dollars. For the same purchase money we can secure a zone of equal breadth, traversing any other part of the Isthmus of Panama. Should we select some other zone we would have available for work on a new, and perhaps better, route the forty million dollars which we agreed to pay to the new French company provided it could convey promptly a good title to the property which it professed to own. The route selected by M. DE LESSEPS is not by any means the only one practicable for a canal within the territory belonging to the Republic of Panama. There are expert engineers who hold that a route might be found which would not involve

is that presented by the Bohio Dam. To the smart Parisian financiers who are engaged in studying the question, How much money can be screwed out of the United States? we offer gratis the information that not one centime will be paid for the property claimed by the new French company beyond the forty million dollars for which it offered to sell. That sum must be taken or left, and but a brief time will be given for decision. The franchise of the French company will, in due time, lapse; but we have no intention of awaiting the expiration of the last extension. The Isthmus is all before us, where to choose, and there is but little doubt that our engineers can hit upon a better route than that adopted by M. DE LESSEPS on the mistaken supposition that it would be fit for a sealevel canal.

Paris blackmailers will learn from the representatives of our Department of Justice—as their congeners learned from our commissioners during the negotiations preceding the purchase of the Louisiana Territory-that our Federal Government is not in the pourboire business.

### The Triumph of Unitarianism.

Recently two conspicuous Congregational ministers of Boston exchanged pulpits with two equally distinguished Unitarian ministers, and on Washington's Birthday the Congregational and Unitarian clubs of that town came together fraternally in a common meeting. These indications of a Congregational surrender to Unitarianism lead a Methodist paper, the Zion's Herald of Boston, to ask with some alarm if actually the doctrinal differences between the two triumph of the religious school which

The question is pertinent, for Dr. LYMAN ABBOTT, nominally a Congregational minister of eminence, expressed great satisfaction, at the joint meeting of the two Boston clubs, that there should be such an exhibition of fellowship; and he spoke of the theological separation between them as merely a difference in and the divinity of CHRIST." If this is power to make it. the general feeling of Congregational denominations should not get together. | Platoon bill now in Albany.

Such a prospect is contemplated painfully by the Methodist paper, for it "makes it harder for every evangelical church in New England to carry on its intrinsic and special mission," since everywhere the tendency and drift, the spirit and influence of Unitarianism, not only chill and restrain evangelistic effort, but also condemn and ridicule evangelistic preaching and work." Unitarianism, says the Zion's Herald, was never more emphatic than now in the rejection of the prime article of orthodox faith: and in proof of its assertion it quotes from a tract by a representative Unitarian minister, lately published by the American Unitarian Association, concerning the Incarnation, thus:

We shall see in these strange accounts of miraculous birth, of singing angels, of the healing of the sick and the raising of the dead, only the wonder stories that blossomed in the imagination of loving but credulous disciples. We shall see no Gop masked in human flesh, no superhuman being vicariously suffering for the sins of a race no personality or act or event that transgresses the laws of experience or that baffles the reason to explain."

This view of the subject, however, is not now peculiar to Unitarians, or to the contemporary Congregationalists who would affiliate with them. In an Episcopal magazine, the Church Eclectic, it is described as rampant in the Anglican Church, thus:

"Clerical correspondents in the London Times. and for that matter all over the Church, are constantly telling us that they do not believe in the open and supernatural statements in St. John's Gospel, that the writers of the Old and New Testa ments alike were allowed to grope their way in the dark, that the cause of GoD has been advanced by legends and fabrications, that CHRIST Himself was very fallible and that the Church at Pentecost was raised on a foundation of falsehood."

As an illustration, this High Church critic of the school of denial quotes the Bishop of Ripon as saying that the argument that JESUS "was wonderfully born and miraculously raised does not evoke, at any rate to-day, an adequate could be considered valid, it would not create a worthy or acceptable faith." In such ways, continues the Church Eclectic critic, "CHRIST'S divinity is either openly or covertly assaulted, and therefore, by inference or direct assertion, His goodness denied, from numbers of Anglican pulpits and in books and pamphlets. until Christianity as represented by Anglicanism is reduced 'to a system of wilful deceit and shameless wickedness.

If that is the situation there would seem to be nothing in the way of essential doctrine to prevent the unity of all of the school of the "New Theology" with Unitarians. So far as we have been able to interpret the somewhat loose-jointed expressions of Dr. LYMAN ABBOTT on the subject, he is practically a Unitarian, and the Bishop of Ripon, in the Mr. O. F. Cook, a man of science who

remarks quoted, seems to put himself in the same category; in which, also, the Church Eclectic puts other Anglican Bishops who pull down to the level of five years ago: the purely natural everything concerning the Incarnation."

Some Facts About the Firemen. A bill now pending before the Legislature should be designated "A bill to decrease the efficiency of the New York city Fire Department, and increase its

expenses by \$2,000,000 a year." Actually the measure is called the Two Platoon bill, and its declared design is to divide the fire fighting force in New York into two sections, the argument used in its favor being that under the present arrangement great hardships afflict the brave and devoted

men in the department. This is not the fact. The firemen of New York are paid liberally, housed well, pensioned in their old age or when they are incapacitated from further duty. Except when they are actually working at fires their lives are easier than those led by men in many other callings. The dangers to which they are subjected are inseparable from the work they have chosen freely.

The fact that their calling is not extra hazardous is established by a comparison of the department death rate with that of other callings. The death rate from all causes in the Fire Department is 6.8 for each thousand annually. The death he lives. rate, excluding accidental deaths, is 4.8 per thousand. Outside of the Fire Department the rate among professional men is 7.6 per thousand, among police and military men 8.2 per thousand, among servants and laborers 13.9 per thousand. The entire number of deaths among the 1,350 firemen in Manhattan and The Bronx from Jan. 1, 1901, to March 9 of this year was only 30.

The firemen are called upon to perform dangerous, exacting duties at fires for less than 4 per cent. of the time in each year. Chief CROKER declares that a fireman will not average more than two hours work to a tour; and for this work he receives, upon becoming a full-fledged fireman-after four years in the service-\$1,400 a year, one day out of five to himself, two weeks vacation annually and time and special leaves.

Under this system New York's splendid Fire Department has developed. Its ranks attract great numbers of enthusiastic young men, anxious to serve therein, with a full knowledge of what the requirements of the life are. Were the hardships of that life as terrible as they are represented to be by the advocates of this bill such would not be the case. nor would the men now in the service stay there.

It is proposed in the Two Platoon bill to destroy the department as it exists now, inject into it 2,000 green men before Churches have come to an end in the Jan. 1, 1905, and thus increase its cost by not less than \$2,000,000 a year. It is creditable to the Fire Department that the officers of the department-themselves graduates from the ranks-and most of the older members are opposed to the measure. The fire insurance authorities also are against it. The experience of other cities with the two platoon system discredits it. Moreover, if such a change should be deemed advisable "metaphysical conceptions of the Trinity | the city authorities already possess the

If ever there was a bill that should be ministers, there is no reason why the two | defeated in the Legislature it is the Two

## American Negroes in Africa.

Bishop DERRICK of the New York Diocese of the African Methodist Episcopal Church sees no prospects for his race in the United States. "This is no country for us," he says. He told the New York Conference of his Church the other day that he was about to go to a wider and better field in Africa. He did not wish to live longer in a land where the negro, though he fought for our flag, is not protected and has not equal rights as a citizen or equal oppor-

tunities as a laborer. But what opportunities does Africa offer that make it desirable for the American negro to return to the land of his

fathers? Bishop DERRICK has recently obtained permission from the British Government for preachers of his denominaton to settle in the Transvaal Colony. Would he like to see American black labor colonized in South Africa, where, greatly to the regret of the Europeans, the blacks already outnumber the whites seven to one; where native laborers are uncivilized and treated accordingly marched to their work by guards at the diamond mines and kept off the sidewalks of the Transvaal towns? Are the chances bright for enlightened negro labor in that part of the world?

Tropical Africa? The facts show that it is particularly unfavorable to emigration, on the score of its dangers to health.

The characteristic diseases of the tropics are not so pernicious in Liberia as in the Niger delta, Calabar, the Cameroons and some other parts of tropical Africa; but Liberia is not salubrious, nor is Sierra Leone. The third and fourth generations of negroes from the United States, the West Indies, Canada and England are living in those lands and they are not yet acclimatized. Liberians who visit this country and express their candid opinion say so. The evidence to this effect is overwhelming. If one seeks it in the works of the most authoritative and reliable writers he may find it in such books as Bishop INGRAM'S "Sierra Leone after a Hundred Years," BUTTIKOFER'S "Liberia, and MARY H. KINGSLEY'S "West African Studies." Here is an extract from Miss KINGSLEY:

" The descendants of the exported Africans have seemingly lost their power of resistance to the malarial West Coast fever. This is a most inter esting subject which some scientific gentleman ought to attend to, for there is a sufficient quantity of evidence ready for his investigation. The mo tality among the Africans sent to Sierra Leone and Liberia has been excessive. . . It looks as if the second and third generations of deported Africans had no greater power of resistance t West Africa than the pure white races; and such being the case, it seems to me a pity they should go there."

knows Liberia by long personal observa tion and has spoken in many respects very favorably of the country, wrote

"Although about 20,000 American negroes have found homes in Liberia, as a solution of the race problem African colonization has thus far proved a fallure."

The latest attempts to colonize Ameri can blacks in Africa have dismally failed. The story of the West Indian negroes sent to the Belgian Congo was short and melancholy. American colored families were to be the nucleus of the United Presbyterian Mission in Calabar, but the excessive mortality speedily put an end to the project.

It is worse than folly to send these people out to Africa under any conditions of colonization yet devised. They have no charm against the climate nor special gift for pioneering. Besides, they are not wanted. Africa has no need for the ordinary farmer or laborer. The local labor markets are full of natives, and it is their brawn and muscle that will be utilized, in the long run, to develop the country.

Neither is the ordinary educated man from abroad needed in Africa. The educated African is being turned out in sufficient quantities from the schools of St. Louis, Freetown, Monrovia, Lagos and Gaboon, and he has the advantage of knowing thoroughly the languages and the conditions of the region where

The resolutions against "the practice of burning a human being for any crime whatsoever," adopted by the Mississippi Confederate Veterans, are creditable to the humanity of those old soldiers. But is it not astonishing that in this twentieth century after CHRIST and in this the country of the newest development of Christian civilization it should be necessary for anybody to proclaim and emphasize that senti-

The civil action for damages brought against Policeman SCHRUM by JOHN J. O'REILLY, a law clerk, for persecution and false imprisonment, is important as inviting a judicial definition of the rights of the police in preventing persons from entering houses in which, they suspect, illegal acts are committed. O'REILLY was sent to a client's house, and SCHRUM forcibly prevented him from entering it and later arliberal treatment in the matter of sick rested him on a charge of interfering with an officer in the discharge of his duty. Instead of taking his prisoner immediately before a Magistrate, as the law requires, the policeman confined him in a prison until the Magistrate ordered his arraignment and discharged him from custody This illegal action by the police complicates the case; but notwithstanding this, if the dispute reaches the higher courts their decision will be interesting and important o the police, the public, and possibly to the Greeks."

#### THE HISTORY OF PARKER. An Authoritative Statement, and a Hint of His Biographer's Troubles.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Regarding a discrepancy between the place and date of birth of Chief Judge Alton B. Parker published in the National Cyclopedia of American Biography and in "Who's Who in America." I beg to say that Judge Parker himself is the authority for the statements in the National Cyclopedia. The records of this biography in our editorial department show him requesting the facts of his life, and in was not very complete. His biography as published was written for us by C. Van Santvoord, the author, of Kingston, N. Y., in February, 1897. A typewritten copy was submitted to Judge Parker March 24, 1897, but was not returned, and on Jan 12, 1898. to a letter requesting its return he replied that he did not receive it. Accordingly another typewritten copy was sent Jan. 19. 1898. This second typewritten copy was ot returned until we again wrote for April 9, 1898, and on June 8, 1898, we received in a letter as follows:

KINGSTON, June 7, 1898. GENTLEMEN: I send herewith corrected sketch of Chief Justice Parker as requested. Yours truly
T. B. WESTBROOK.

This typewritten copy distinctly reads "Was born at Worcester, Mass., May 14, 1851, son of John Brooks Parker," &c. On May 22, 1900, we wrote him that his biography was now ready for the printer, but it lacked the record of his marriage and requested the maiden name of his wife and the place and date of marriage. In response he sent us these facts May 29. When the article was in type a galley proof was sent to Judge Parker June 6, 1900, for final correction of any mistakes. Not hearing from him, on June 19, 1900, a letter was written requesting the return of this galley proof, to which he replied that he had not seen the said proof and requesting us to send a duplicate addressed to Esopus, N. Y.; and a duplicate proof was mailed to Esopus July 2, 1900.

Judge Parker, moreover, is a subscriber Was born at Worcester, Mass., May 14, 1851

July 2, 1900.

July 2, 1900.

Judge Parker, moreover, is a subscriber to the cyclopedia, and must have seen his biography published in Volume X., and we have never heard from him that there were any mistakes in it. In view of the above I think your correspondent will find that the facts in the cyclopedia are correct

GEORGE DERBY, Managing Editor.

NEW YORK, March 21.

### The Racing of Automobiles.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: I SAW IN THE Sun that the Tiger Wheelmen have arranged road race meet for Sunday, May 1. or less interest in the efforts to prevent the speeding of automobiles on the highways, I want to ask what the wheelmen mean by turning the public road

If there ever was any time when blevele rider should do all they could to discourage racing of the roads it is now, when the automobiles, with their reckless speed, are a menace to wheelme as much as to any others who use the roads. How can wheelmen consistently ask for protection against auto scorching by law when they themselves con vert roads into speed courses:

Oh, for the old League of American Wheelmer some similar organization to take hold of thes awbreakers and call them to account! NEW YORK, March 21.

### A Nasty Habit in England Also.

From London Truth.
One of my readers, who has been staying at popular watering place in the west of England writes to express his disgust at the unrestrained expectoration which he witnessed on the prome nade-not only his disgust, but his fear that thi state of things may lead to the dissemination o tuberculosis, the place being much frequented by consumptive patients. His point is that in these days, when even in London attempts have been made by the local authorities to check this nulsane have strict by-laws on the subject and enforce them. He goes on to suggest that if those towns which have proper by laws on this and other public matters were to advertise the fact visitors would select them in preference to those which neglec their duty, with the result that all would spe be brought into line.

#### Realization. "I have waited for thee, love," he said,

"Since youth's bright day began— Through life your unseen presence led Wheree'er my footsteps ran: Not once I've wavered in the road. Nor changed my purpose true, Your face has been my guide, my goad-My soul has longed for you.

And now, that here within my grasp I hold thy gracious form, I'll to my heart thy influence clasp Then, when I've looked thee o'er and o'er. And noted every line, I'll bank thee, as did those of yore, O legacy of mine.

LURANA W. SERUDON.

THE TRUE ALASKA.

Its Wonderful Natural Riches and Possibilities of Development Celebrated.

The President of the Alaska Geographical Society in the National Magazine. Alaska is a great empire, of the enormous size of which few people have any just conception. It is more than 550 times as large n area all the States of the Union east of the Mississippi River. It has the grandest scenery in the world, and resources sufficient con fortably to support ten millions of people. Through the heart of the vast territory flows the mighty Yukon River, the largest

n North America, larger and longer than the Mississippi. On this great river one may ride for more than 2,000 miles with as much comfort as upon the Hudson.

The valley of the Yukon has been proounced richer than the valley of the Missouri, and it will undoubtedly some day support an

mmense population. People in Pennsylvania are very much inerested in coal, and know what a source of wealth it is. I believe that there is more coa.

Coal is but one of Alaska's many mineral esources. The enormous deposits of copper in the Copper River region are now attracting great attention. predicted by Capt. Healy, who was a resident of Montana for twenty-four years and Alaska seventeen years, that Alaska will in the next thirty years produce more mineral wealth than the whole United States has produced in the thirty years just ended.

The Russians made enormous fortunes in furs, and millions more have been made by Americans since the purchase by the United States. Alaska has the richest fisheries of the world. Competent authorities declare its fisheries greater than those of Newfoundland and the North Sea combined.

There are vast forests of timber in Alaska which remain practically untouched. Alaska is certain to become a great agricultural country. It will some day produce more grain and of a better quality than any State in the Union. It has been within my lifetime that the cultivation of wheat was be-

gun in Manitoba, Dakota and Minnesota, and as a rule, the further north the better the quality of the grain grown. The fact that thousands upon thousands of acres of the finest grasses cover the river valleys from four to six feet high is evidence of the great opportunities for stock raising Cattle can be wintered in southern Alaska with far less difficulty and expense than in Montana, and in many places cattle will look

I believe that Alaska is certain to become one of the greatest stock-raising regions of the The United States Government has several years past had experts at work carefully investigating its resources and possi-bilities, and after these years of painstaking investigation makes public its estimate that there are at least 100,000 square miles of territory in Alaska admirably adapted to agriculture. Prof. C. C. Georgeson of the United States Department of Agriculture says:
"There could never be a greater misconception in regard to a geographical fact than the popular idea that Alaska is a snow-covered waste. As a matter of fact, one can travel from one end of the Yukon to the other in summer and never see snow. On the con-

the popular idea that Alaska is a snow-covered waste. As a matter of fact, one can travel from one end of the Yukon to the other in summer and never see snow. On the contrary, one will see a tangle of luxuriant vegetation, large forests and such delicacies as wild raspberries, red currants, huckleberries and cranberries in profusion. In places the grass grows as high as a man's shoulders."

The finest vegetables I have ever eaten were grown on the Yukon and served on the river steamers. Prof. Macoun of the Canadian Government botanical department explains this fact by saying that "the vegetables are finer than grown elsewhere in the world, because the twenty-four hours of sun in summer rushes the growth so that they have no time to harden or grow tough, and are sweet and delicious and almost melt in the mouth."

The greatest mystery to most people is the climate of Alaska. Cherishing a vague idea of a barren waste of snow and ice, it comes as a rude shock to learn that it is very much like Pennsylvania, New York and New England in summer; and in winter, while cold at the north, peculiarly mild in the south, so mild that from Sitka a thousand miles weet the mean winter temperature is very much like that of the city of Washington. Of course, in a region of such vast extent as Alaska, stretching as it does further east and west than from New York to San Francisco, and further north and south than from the Gulf to the Great Lakes, there is naturally a great diversity of climate. The peculiar modifying influence along the whole southern coast for 2,000 miles is the Japanese current, which tempers this region as it does Callfornia, Washington and British Columbia.

Over vast areas of the interior the summer is warm and delightful, and vegetation grows with an almost semi-tropical luxuriance. There are millions of birds. The winter in the interior is cold, clear and exhilarating, much the same as in Dakota and Manitoba.

What now is most urgently needed is railroads in all parts of Alaska. They are indispensable and w for itself within a year

### The Perils in Kissing.

From the New York Medical Journal.
To the average healthy citizen the practice classing includes danger of insidious bacterial in fection. When the mucocutaneous investment of the lips presents one or more breaches of conti nuity, the danger is, of course, indefinitely increased But to such dangers there is superadded, in the case of the neuropath, that of a shock highly injurious the nervous system.

It has long been known to ethnologists that among many primitive tribes and races the prac-tice of klasing was unknown. Among the Lapps and the Maoris, rubbing of noses occupied its place-The average native of Japan, a country which prom ises to take so important a place in the making of future history, still knows nothing of the practice

of kissing. The practice of lip to lip salutation was especiall characteristic of English social life in Tudor times. Its universal employment was one of the things noticed by Erasmus during his sojourn in England, and is thus commented on in one of his "Epistolæ": "Here are girls with angels' faces, so kind and obliging that you would prefer them to all your Besides, there is a custom here never to be only commended. Whenever you come you are received with a kiss by all; when you take your leave you are dismissed with kisses return, klasses are repeated. They come to visit you, kisses again: they leave you, you kiss them all ound. Should they meet you anywhere, kisses in abundance; in fine, wherever you move, there

Closing of the Liquor Saloons Advocated. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: The article signed "Saplenza," asking why not close up the liquor saloons, must interest a large portion of the thinking public who are trying to conceive a plan whereby a moral civic condition may be assured Why not follow this bold suggestion, however startling it may seem to the majority of us, who have never, even in our wildest imagining, been able to conjure up a vision of New York city "side doorless," much less saloonless? It is a brave man who "grasps the nettle" show us the root of all civic evils.

Close the saloons, and the police force will find itself able to cope with other unfortunate existing NOT A TERTOTALER. NEW YORK, March 21.

#### Carman's River Not Free Fishing Water TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I was aston

shed to read on Sunday that Carman's River to the town of Brookhaven, Suffolk county, L. I was a public stream for trout fishing. The Carman's River from the Bay to the Suffolk Club (its entire length) has been leased from the Smith estate, which owns the river, for many year by the Carman's River Club, and the club ha and protection of fish, birds and game," and has duly posted it as is required by law but a misdemeanor, and any person so doing can be

arrested without a warrant WILLIAM J. MYERS. Secretary the Carman's River Club.

# A Gloomy Wedding Gift.

From the Liverpool Post. Two septuagenarians have just celebrated their golden wedding, and among their many presents was one from a tombstone manufacturer, whose gift took the form of a tombstone with the names of the couple engraved upon it. It will be at one erected upon a spot which the recipients of the gift have selected as their last resting place.

first article that the St. Louis fair is upon us; the impressionistic pictures are by Mr. Jules Guérin. Mr. John Corbin writes about London playgoers. Capt. Mahan continues his account of the War of 1512, and Mrs. George Bancroft's "Letters" come to an end. There are four poems, three abort stories and an instalment of Judge Grant's serial.

Scribner's Magazine for April warns us in it

MR. BALFOUR'S WAR RECORD. HANDS SMALL, WELL GLOVED. Fourteen We a Costing Over Three Billion

Points in Which, It is Boasted, San Fran-

cisco Women Excel All Others

From the San Francisco Chronicle

San Francisco is the greatest glove town on earth, say the glove dealers of the city

There are more gloves sold here in proportion

other city on record. There are more ex-

ensive gloves sold here to the class of women

who do their shopping in the retail houses

are more perishable light-colored and light-

weight gloves worn on the streets in the day

time in San Francisco than there are in other

American cities. Finally according to the glove dealers, the hands which these gloves

cover are, on the average, noticeably smaller

and more shapely than the hands of the aver-

and so ordered in large quantities from the Eastern sources, are the five and a half, five

and three-quarters and six. The size of the

somewhere between the two numbers last

The biggest sales of gloves in the East ar-

in the sizes from six to six and a half, with the average at about six and one-half. The

large lines of small sizes ordered by their San Francisco branches are a constant source of

urprise to the Eastern houses, who must be

told again and again that big consignments

of the larger sizes will not be sold.

Women of all degrees of wealth are equally

particular about their hands. Shop girls

spend \$1.50 or \$2 every month or so for a pair

of gloves, concerning the quality and fit of

which they are quite as particular as is the wife

of the prosperous business or professional

man. It is a tradition and a habit among

San Francisco women of all classes to appear

on the streets well gloved and well shod

the fact remains that these two adjuncts of

the toilet are consistently as correct as pos-

In addition to the evident care bestowed

upon the hands there is a most significant

natural reason for their beauty. The climate

of San Francisco is perfect for the develor

ment of this great charm, the pretty hand

It is soft and moist rather than dry, and free from the harsh, cold winds which crack and

chap the hands in spite of care. The weather

conditions are most favorable to the preserva-

tion of a firm, soft, white skin. The per-

sistent wearing of gloves in the open air has

a marked effect in seconding the climate for

the beauty of the hands. It protects them

from the tan which thickens the skin: from

the freckles which disfigure it, and from the

dust and grit which force themselves into

the pores and roughen the finger tips to the

Even among children are gloves universally

worn, for the pretty and well kept hand has

become a tradition with our women, and ite

development in the younger generation is a

AMERICAN MILITARY TACTICS.

Their Authorship Again Attributed to

the American Indian.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Ameri-

gradually developed from the time of the

early French and Indian wars, were used

through the Revolution on land, through the

through the Revolution on land, through the War of 1812 on sea, and were further developed in the experience gained by the army on the Western frontier, when the land west of the Mississippi River was yet unexplored. From the tactics of the modern torped boat to those of the large battleship; from the modern infantry scout to the tactics of the cavalry and artillery, we must look to the American Indian for all that we have in organization.

ganization.
Statues to those representing our military ideals would not be out of place fronting the American War College, and they would certainly be of interest to its students.
A statue of Sitting Bull, the late chief and medicine man of the Sioux, would appropriately represent the Indians' donation to the United States cavalry school; while a statue of Geronimo, the Apache chief, would appropriately represent the infantry taction which the Indian has given to modern war-fare.

War Science of Frederick and Napoleon.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your

correspondent who contends that there is

no reason for placing the statue of Fred-

erick the Great in our War College be-

used by the great Generals and have adopted the American Indian tactics instead, is en-tirely ignorant of military affairs.

I quote Dufour, viz: "The application of strategical principles is the same at all times and in all places." And Sargent, of our army, a great military critic and writer, says: "Im-proved weapons and improved methods of transportation may in some cases, slightly

proved weapons and improved methods of transportation may, in some cases, slightly modify strategical movements and strat-egical combinations; but the principles of strategy, the great principles of war, are the same to-day as in the days of the great Na-roleon.

oleon."
Now, we know that the methods of trans-

Eat Raisins and Keep Sober.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.
"California raisins have practically eliminated the

foreign crop from our markets," I am told by Joseph Sabbini. "Fifteen years ago the average importa-

ion of foreign raisins into this country was about

1,900,000 cases annually. A few years later, after

of commercial utility, this importation had fallen to 112,000 cases, and within the last few years I

have scarcely seen any foreign supply at all.
"By the way, speaking of raisins, did you ever

I do not mean that they will cure one of a taste for alcoholic stimulants, but that they will enable

one to keep sober even when drinking to a con

"The raisins absorb alcohol, and so, no matter how much one drinks, if he will eat raisins con-

tinually, not less than three or four to each glass

of beer, for example, they will prevent the alcohol from being taken up in the blood, and thus pre-

Make-up of the English Woman

From London Truth.

If you were asked to construct an English woman

from her shopping, what a fiendishly heartless horror she would turn out! Tearing the plumes

from flying birds for her hat, scorning her starving countrymen, their wives and children, while sate

nips across to Paris to buy her silks, decking her

head with the tresses of poor souls ill in hospital— But we will go no further with the fabrication of our

How Rare Plumage Is Spoiled.

From Madame.

In spite of all the money spent on clothes and

the miles of shop windows devoted to the display of feminine wearing apparel, few well dressed

women are to be met with. The lovely fabrics that

bask behind a plate-glass window too often lose

their attractions in their transition to the pave-

ments, when they appear at the wrong time or

One Woman's Preference

From the Lady's Pictorial

I wonder if many of my sex really want to vote for Members of Parliament? I think it so much

the wrong woman in the wrong hat

know that they are a great help to sobrlety

the production in California had reached

cause we have changed from the

NEW YORK, March 18.

New York, March 21.

siderable extent.

serve a state of sobriety."

female Frankenstein.

detriment of the nails.

matter of course

sible.

in the city than there are elsewhere

age Eastern woman

number of inhabitants than in any

Litter in Nine Years. the Speaker. ist party came into power in the summer (1 1895 they seem to have engaged their controven in at least fourteen wars and military expeditions. It is an atrocious and bloodthirsty record, of which an empire of savages might be proud, but of which a kingdom that stood among civilized Powers for peace, freedom and justice must be eternally ashamed. We believe that from a financial point of view there is only one period of similar length in British history which has been so disastrous. Certainly so much British treasure has not been spent in war in any nine years since the battle of Waterloo. Perhaps the simplest way of stating the effect of this incessant warfare upon material interests is by saying that it 85, and has increased the national debt from 635 to 798 millions, or, to put it in another way. we have spent on war the accumulated sav ings of the thirty years from 1868, when Mr. Gladstone came to the helm, till 1898, when Sir Michael Hicks-Beach made his first raid

sir Michael Bicks-Beach made his first raid on the Sinking Fund.

1. There have been two wars in Ashanti. In the first (1895-98), 1,000 British and 1,000 na-tive troops were engaged at a cost of £192,000. In the second (1900), 4,000 native troops were employed for nine months, at a cost of £428,-000.

employed for nine months, at a cost of £428,2000.

2. In 1896 and 1897 the Chartered Company
made three native wars. In the first, against
the Matabeles (1896), 660 British, 2,143 colonial and 5,129 native troops were engaged for
nine months; in the second (1896), in Mashonaland, 570 British and 1,550 colonial troops
were engaged for six and a half months, and
in 1897, also in Mashonaland, 650 colonial and
120 native troops were engaged for ten months.
The cost of the three expeditions was £2,586,907 4s., according to figures supplied by
the British South Africa Company.

3. In 1896-99, in the Soudan, 7,500 British
and 12,500 native troops were employed for
nine months, at a cost of £2,415,000.

4. In 1897-98, on the Northwest frontier of
India, 15,000 British and 37,000 native troops
were engaged for eight months, at a cost of
£2,600,000. This, like other punitive expeditions, was conducted with special ferocity,
native villages being burned and fruit trees
cut down.

5. In the South African War (1899-1902).

native villages being burned and fruit trees cut down.

5. In the South African War (1899-1902), 365,000 British and 82,000 colonial troops were engaged. The war lasted two years and eight months. The total cost, according to a return of April, 1903, was 211 millions, including interest on war debt, but since then six and a half millions have been added, which brings up the official estimate to 217½ millions. This sum, however, is certainly not final.

which brings up the official estimate to 217½ millions. This sum, however, is certainly not final.

6. In 1900-01 we were involved in a very expensive expedition to China, in which the European troops murdered defenceless Chinamen wholesale, and looted "like burglars or Boxers." The affair had cost £6,010,000, according to the official return of April 29, 1903; but the supplementary army estimates which have been issued during the last fortnight demand a further trifle of £650,000 from the long suffering taxpayers, and so bring up the total to £6,680,000.

7. Last year's official return of military expeditions requires to be supplemented by five more adventures—Venezuela, Kano, Aden, Somaliland and Tibet. The two last, and far the more serious, are still with us and are involving a heavy expenditure which cannot be measured accurately, but certainly runs to several hundred thousand pounds every month.

runs to several hundred thousand pounds every month.

Making a far too moderate allowance for the cost of winding up outstanding charges and concluding the operations that are now being conducted, we should say that the Unionist Government during its less than nine years of office has been responsible for an expenditure of at least 250 millions on war alone, while it has also run through about 400 millions in the way of "normal" or peace expenditure on soldiers, sailors, battleships, barracks and forts.

## THE MINISTRY AND THE CHURCH

Man Who Left the Christian Ministry. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: You say that young man who has retired from the ministry of the Episcopal Church asserts that "of the class theological seminary six years ago, ten already have abandoned the ministry to which they were

tistical tables give 5.128 clergymen for 1902 and 5.178 for 1903-no failing off in the total number of

which the Indian has given to history fare.

Comparing the military science of the European Generals with the modern American school, it would seem fair to our heroes who have brought out the methods which make the United States army and navy what they are to-day, to recognize their contributions to science with appropriate statues, in preference to the statues of European Generals.

CARL EICKEMETER. I have looked up the sesquidecennial record of my college class and find that of 153 members of the class, fourteen entered the ministry. Three of the fourteen have died. After fifteen years of work the eleven remaining are still preaching. Only the Methodist Year Book gives an exact statement of the number of men who retire from the ministry each year. In the "Minutes of the Spring Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church for 1903" I find records of thirty-eight ar the question, "Who have withdrawn?" the answer is given under twenty-four of the conferences, "No one." Under nine conferences the name of

one man each is given.

"Meantime the quality of the young men who now study for the ministry he describes as poor."
In comparing, mentally, the fourteen men who entered the ministry from the college class above referred to with the 139 others. I do not think the ourteen travelled considerably through Europe,

Asia or Africa subsequent to graduation.

The young man from whom you quote adds that "after graduation he found 'the same thing' (inferior intellectual ability) in moving around among his 'brethren of the cloth.' " During the past ten years I have had occasion to have business correspondence with 14,000 ministers in the United States and Canada, of all denominations. I have than other men. I believe they are the equals of lawyers, physicians and business men.

Now, we know that the methods of transportation and the weapons used in the days of Frederick were practically the same as those used by Napoleon. Therefore, if both of these great soldiers saw fit to study the campaigns of Cæsar and Alexander, which took place over two thousand years before their time, why should we neglect to study their own campaigns and the military principles they adopted, when they lived less than two centuries ago? Indeed, the objections to this statue seem not only narrow but ridiculous. To refuse it on the grounds stated in the aforesaid communication would make the United States the laughing stock of nations. The young man questions if "the Church will continue to exist at all." In 1830 the ratio of membership of his Church to population was 1 to 416. In 1860, 1 to 214: In 1890, 1 to 123; In 1900, 1 to 107 pulation of the United States has grown from 12,800,000 in 1830 to 76,000,000 in 1900 -- an increase of nearly sixfold. The membership of the Epis Church has increased from 81,000 in 1830 to 714,000 n 1900, an increase of twenty-threefold. seems to be a pretty vigorous grower. His fears for its disintegration do not seem to be well founded.

If the "brethren of the cloth" are weak, as he says, there must be a tremendous inherent energy in the Gospel which they preach to have increase tself twenty-threefold in seventy years-nearly four times as fast as the population. bership of other denominations is increasing in

The young man says that the clergy have added the labors of "trustees of asylums, orphanages schools and hospitals, dispensaries and colleges to preaching the Gospel. This is true in many cases but preaching the Gospel, visiting the sick and helping the weak is the business of the great body members of churches are believers not in a moraor religious philosophy, but in Jesus as the Sor CHESTER, N. J., March 21.

The Young Man Who Gave Up the Ministry. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Str: The young ex-elergyman who criticises the "institutional Church" does not understand the deep religious spirit which prompts its "secular and philanthropic activities." Christ's second great commandment Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." interpreted by these earnest workers to mean simply that we shall pray for our neighbor or preach to him. The modern Church has taken for its motto "I serve." and conceives it to be its duty to do active work among the the sick and the old, and always and above all, the young. All this to the end that our "neighbor" may be shielded, so far as may be, from temptation, suffering and want. The Good Samaritan not the Pharisee, was commended by the great Teacher who Himself has taught us by His own example to minister to the material as well as the spiritual wants of the poor and needy.

The spirit of the Church of Christ has to such an

extent become the spirit of modern civilization tha men are apt to forget the great source of the ethical and altrustic tendencies of the age. Let no one. and above all no one who is preserved by the "ar rogance of youth " from an overwhelming sense of the sorrows and perils of humanity, question the need or the "persistence" of the Church of Christ n this twentieth century of its existence work which she has done for the world is incalcula the work she is doing now and will do in the future no man can estimate or foretell NEW YORK, March 20. A LAY MEMBER.

> I des don't sell no vote, suh, Ez mighty well you knowed. But I knows de man ter work fer Ef I finds ten dollars in de road! En I bets de yuther feller Will think that a cyclone blowed. En a carfquake loosed de groun' up, Ef I finds five dollars in de road!

Oh, I mighty po' en humble, En I never reaps what I sowed, En I feels lak compermisin': Can't you lose one dollar in de read?

His Voting Song.

From the Atlanta Constitution

nght them out publicly for yourself. Romance in Bagdad. Scheherazade had married the Sultan

"Yes," said the heroine of the "Arabian Nights. "things are just reversed; he tells me fairy tales every night now."

The Hint Courteous. Algy-Yaas, Miss Van Twiller, I am weally quite

Miss Van Twiller-Impossible. Our coms al